Majuli island. Another scheme amounting to Rs. 41.28 crore has been approved for the protection of Majuli island. Assistance has also been rendered to Assam in the form of Additional Central Assistance/Non Lapsable Central Pool of Resources under which an amount of Rs. 163.94 crore was provided to the State Government since 1998-99 to take up critical Flood Management Schemes.

Per Capita Water Availability

3547. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the national per capita water availability;

(b) the per capita availability of water of each State/UT;

(c) the ideal per capita water requirement; and

(d) steps taken to make more water available in the water scarce region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The annual per capita availability of water, as per population census of 2001 is 1820 cubic metre.

(b) The per capita availability of water has not been assessed State-wise.

(c) The National Commission on Integrated Water Resources Development in its report has referred to expert studies which ranks countries according to per capita annual water resources (AWR). The classified countries with an AWR per capita of 1,700 cubic metre and above as those where the shortage will be local and rare.

(d) National Water Policy, 2002 provides that water should be made available to water short areas by transfer from other areas including transfers from one river basin to another, based on a national perspective, after taking into account the requirements of the areas/basins. National Perspective Plan for water resources development also envisages inter-basin transfer of water which will make more available in the water scarce region. For conservation and augmentation of water resources, the Ministry of Water Resources has also taken up a pilot scheme on 'National Project for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies directly linked to Agriculture'. A scheme on 'Artificial Recharge to Groundwater and Rainwater Harvesting' is also under active consideration.